CLAIMS

Now, therefore, the following is claimed:

1   1.   A system for selectively blocking event signals associated with

2   operating systems, comprising:

3   an operating system configured to detect an occurrence of an event and to

4   transmit an event signal corresponding to said event;

5   a first data structure having a first value indicating whether said event signal is

6   blocked; and

7   a device responsive to a system call for updating said first value in said first

8   data structure, said device configured to receive said event signal from said operating

9   system and to transmit a signal indicating said occurrence of said event in the absence

10   of an indication from said first value that said event signal is blocked.

1   2.   The system of claim 1, wherein said indication corresponds to a set bit

2   of a bit vector.

1   3.   The system of claim 1, wherein said device is a translation device

2   configured to intercept and interpret signals from said operating system and a software

3   program.

1   4.   The system of claim 1, wherein said system call is an instruction for

2   said operating system to block said event signal.

1   5.   The system of claim 1, wherein said system for selectively blocking is

2   associated with a translation system that receives signals transmitted to said operating

3   system, interprets said signals, and translates said signals into a form compatible with

4   said operating system.

1   6.   The system of claim 1, wherein said first value is defined by a bit

2   associated with a bit vector.

1   7.   The system of claim 1, further comprising a second data structure

2   having a second value corresponding with said first value and configured to indicate

3   that said device received said event signal, and wherein said device is further

4   configured to transmit said signal indicating said occurrence of said event based on

5   said second value.

1   8.   The system of claim 7, wherein said system call is configured to

2   instruct said operating system to unblock said event signal.

1   9.   A system for selectively blocking event signals associated with an

2   operating system, comprising:

3   a first data structure having a plurality of values, each of said plurality of

4   values indicating whether a corresponding event signal is blocked; and

5 ·   a device responsive to system calls for controlling said plurality of values in

6   said first data structure and responsive to an event signal from said operating system

7   for analyzing one of said plurality of values corresponding to said event signal in

8   order to determine whether said event signal is blocked,

9   wherein said device transmits a signal corresponding to said event signal when

10   said device determines that said event signal is not blocked based on said one of said

11   plurality of values.

1   10.   The system of claim 9, wherein said system for selectively blocking is

2   associated with a translation system that receives signals transmitted to said operating

3   system, interprets said signals, and translates said signals into a form compatible with

4   said operating system.

1   11.   The system of claim 9, wherein said first data structure is defined by a

2   bit vector.

1   12.   The system of claim 9, further comprising a second data structure

2   having a second plurality of values, each of said second plurality of values indicating

3   whether a corresponding blocked event signal has been received by said device.

1   13.   The system of claim 12, wherein said device is responsive to an

2   unblocking system call for analyzing one of said second plurality of values and for

3   transmitting a particular signal when said one of said second plurality of values

4   indicates that said blocked event signal has been received by said device.

1   14.   The system of claim 12, wherein said particular signal corresponds to

2   said blocked event signal.

1   15.   A method for selectively blocking event signals associated with an

2   operating system, comprising the steps of:

3   intercepting an event signal from said operating system;

4   determining whether said event signal is blocked subsequent to said

5   intercepting step; and

6   transmitting a signal corresponding to said event signal in the absence of a

7   determination that said signal is blocked.

1   16.   The method of claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

2   receiving an unblocking system call corresponding to an event associated with

3   said event signal;

4   determining whether said event occurred prior to said receiving step; and

5   transmitting said signal corresponding to said event signal when said event

6   occurred prior to said receiving step.

1   17.   The method of claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

2   receiving a system call indicating whether said event signal is blocked; and

3   indicating whether said event signal is blocked based on said receiving step.

1   18.   The method of claim 17, wherein said system call is a blocking system

2   call.

1   19.   A system for selectively blocking event signals associated with an

2   operating system, comprising:

3   means for intercepting an event signal from said operating system;

4   means for determining whether said event signal is blocked subsequent to said

5   intercepting step; and

6   means for transmitting a signal corresponding to said event signal in the

7   absence of a determination that said event signal is blocked.

1   20.   The system of claim 19, further comprising:

2   means for receiving an unblocking system call corresponding to an event

3   associated with said event signal;

4   means for determining whether said event occurred prior to said receiving

5   step; and

6   means for transmitting said signal corresponding to said event signal when

7   said event occurred prior to said receiving step.

1   21.   The system of claim 19, further comprising:

2   means for receiving a system call indicating whether said event signal is

3 blocked; and

4   means for indicating whether said event signal is blocked based on said

5 receiving step.

1   22. The system of claim 21, wherein said system call is a blocking system

2 call.